

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**  
**MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION**  
**Rajya Sabha**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. : 2247**  
**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 16th December 2024**  
**MEASURES FOR FLIGHT OPERATIONS DURING FOGGY**  
**CONDITIONS**

**2247. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA**

**Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:-**

- (a) whether Government is aware of cancellation and diversion of several flights due to fog situation during winter season every year;**
- (b) if so, whether any specific measures have been taken to avoid such instances during the present winter season; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION**  
**(Shri Murlidhar Mohol)**

**(a) to (c) Yes, Fog conditions at times do lead to cancellations and diversions of flights. Government is taking steps to minimize the impact of fog and reduce inconvenience to passenger by deployment of modern technology to assist in landing and takeoff of flights during low visibility operations and enhance the skills of pilots and other personnel.**

**Following actions are taken before onset of fog period:**

- (1) Special audits of CAT II/III ILS facilities to ensure uninterrupted Air Navigation Services (ANS) during fog season**
- (2) Inspections to ensure that critical/sensitive areas are secured appropriately at aerodromes**

**(3) Direction to Airlines to bring changes in their flight schedules in order to eliminate CAT II/III non-compliant aircraft from operating during fog and**

**(4) Directions to Airlines to ensure scheduling of CAT II/III qualified crew only.**

**(5) Regular surveillance of various facilities such as Aerodrome, Air Navigation Services, Meteorological equipment etc. to ensure compliance towards applicable regulations.**

**(6) Audits of fog affected airports to ensure uninterrupted air navigational services, aerodrome lightings and other related facilities and to ensure critical and sensitive areas are secured appropriately, before the onset of fog period.**

**(7) To ensure positioning of Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME) at diversion airports.**

**The following specific measure have been taken to handle fog situations during the winter season. DGCA had carried out safety audits of all six CAT III ILS equipped airports (New Delhi, Lucknow, Jaipur, Amritsar, Kolkata, Bengaluru) to ensure the preparedness of Air Traffic Management, Communication, Navigation and Surveillance and Aviation Meteorological facilities and personnel before the onset of fog season. The airport operators and airline operators were sensitized for the upcoming winter season.**

**DGCA has issued CAR, Section -3, Series -M, Part -V, titled "Facilitation in case of flight diversion" in order to ensure hassle free air travel for passengers, who get stranded at aerodrome or inside aircraft due to flight diversion, resulting due to circumstances attributed to force majeure conditions which are beyond control of airlines."**

**DGCA has issued directions in the form of SOP to all schedule airlines in view of the fog-induced disruptions and adverse weather conditions at various airports including Delhi Airport causing delays, cancellations and inconvenience to passengers.**

**Furthermore, the government is proactively engaged through regular meetings for fog preparedness with all the stakeholders to ensure passenger convenience, while also prioritizing safe aircraft operations.**

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